

EXCLUSIVE**NATIONAL REPORT**

The Unfinished Agenda Will Finish America

Rockefeller Brother's Fund Issues Blueprint For No - Energy Economy

by Carol Lerner

On Feb. 2, the Environmental Agenda Task Force, an organization sponsored by the Rockefeller Brother Fund, held a little publicized, day-long symposium on Washington's Capitol Hill to publicize its just released report, *The Unfinished Agenda*. The consensus report written by the 12-member Task Force in collaboration with 63 other leading environmentalists. The report is a blueprint for the total destruction of United States industry through a combination of energy cutbacks coupled with at least five-fold increases in energy prices.

The Task Force document (see summary and excerpts) calls for a "new type of energy economy," a "Conservator Society," where a "centralized high-technology future is unsuitable." Electricity generation is not "thermodynamically justified," the report states. Fission energy should be phased out while fusion research should be virtually eliminated. In fact, all investments in energy or technology in general should be halted. Instead we should move to "soft 'energy sources'" based on converting "sun, wind, organic materials — even geothermal heat — to useful forms" over the next years. In particular the so-called environmentalists stress the conversion of wood into liquid-fuel (methanol) and the recycling of sludge (human excrement) into fertilizer and fuel. The development of "soft energy sources" should be paid for by taxing existing fossil fuel consumption — taxes which would drive the cost of a barrel of oil to \$100.00 and natural gas to \$16.00 per thous. cu-ft. or more than a 10-fold increase.

The 191-page document, which lists 70 "public policy proposals" earmarked for legislation, applies "zero growth solutions" as population control, pollution abatement, natural resources, and the ecology. The report proposes that food shipments be eliminated and all assistance — food or development — be tied to mass population control. Domestically, it argues that income tax deductions should be eliminated for the third — and after — child. The report calls for the substitution of "hand tractors" and other "hand tools" for mechanized farm machinery both at home and abroad.

"The money (presumably saved from such a transition -ed.) could be used to retire the national debt, Dennis Hayes of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund-funded Worldwatch Institute stated (see interview below) — debt mostly owed to the Rockefeller's Chase Manhattan International Monetary Fund.

The Rockefeller family itself is aware of the implications of a program which would be able to generate only enough energy to sustain life for 10 million people at current U.S. living standards or 75- to 80-million at a Fourteenth century standard at best. Rockefeller Brothers Fund staffer, Gerald O. Barney (see interview below), who is also editor of *The Unfinished Agenda* report, has said that "some people, particularly children from 1-10, may not make it."

The proposals contained in *The Unfinished Agenda* are intended to constitute the central core of Jimmy Carter's national energy policy scheduled to be announced April 20 — a fact confirmed by President Carter's Feb. 8 press conference where he hinted that he would propose an energy tax on natural gas. The favorable reaction given by Carter's Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs and Policy Stuart Eizenstat, who keynoted the Task Force's symposium, (see excerpts from his speech below) only confirms this fact. In addition, Energy Czar James Schlesinger, a well known proponent of nuclear power in all forms but nuclear energy, is about to launch a campaign for both solar energy and an energy tax.

The Task Force will also lobby Congress to pass aspects of the "unfinished agenda" program. In the House, Rep. John Dingle (D-Mich), who hosted the symposium, and Rep. Richard Ottinger (D-NY), who is a first Vice President of the Friends of the Earth, have emerged as leaders. In the Senate, Sen. Charles Percy (D-Ill) and Sen. Edward Brooke (R-Mass), who has introduced legislation forcing utility companies to tie progressive price rise to energy usage, have become open supporters. The Rockefeller Brothers Fund is described in its Annual Report as the family's own private "vehicle through which we could share a source of advice and research."

Every single leading member of the Rockefeller family sits on the Rockefeller Brothers Fund's board along with Common Cause's James Gardner and Big MAC's Felix Rohatyn, who is placed on the Fund's Finance Committee.

Through both the Fund and the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations, the Rockefeller family created the environmentalist-conservation movement. For example, the RBF, which also Funds the Trilateral Commission, funds more than 25 environmental and related organizations including Worldwatch Institute and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

The Environmental Agenda Task Force was personally established by RBF Chairman Laurance Rockefeller, a leading Board member of the Natural Resources Defense Council, a Task Force participant. The Task Force was formed last July only days after Jimmy Carter wrangled the Democratic Party nomination. The report was first publicized about two weeks after Carter's inauguration and only hours before his "fireside chat" on energy policy.

To insure that the Task Force document would be ready on time Rockefeller personally drafted leading zero growth propagandists, including Lester Brown (Worldwatch Institute), Amory Lovins (Friends of the Earth), Donella Meadows (Club of Rome) and even himself to write the bulk of the book's 10 chapters.

According to RBF staffer Gerald D. Barney, Rocke-

feller hopes to use the Task Force, whose members represent the 12 largest environmental groups, along with the other leading environmentalists who participated in the project as the core of a large "united front" organization which would lobby for the recommendations listed in *The Unfinished Agenda*. While all of these groups have basically adopted the anti-nuclear energy perspective, both in terms of the economy and population, there are differences in emphasis, particularly between the so-called radical wing, Zero Population Growth, Environmental Action, Friends of the Earth, etc., and those considered more traditional, Sierra Club, National Audubon Society, etc. While in practice these differences are miniscule, Laurance Rockefeller wants to turn this presently loose coalition into a highly centralized and *fascist* movement.

'Some Of The Kids Aren't Going To Make It'

The following is an interview with Gerald O. Barney, editor of the Unfinished Agenda and coordinator of the Environmental Agenda Task Force. Mr. Barney is on the staff of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

Q: How do you expect to get the recommendations in the *Unfinished Agenda* implemented?

A: Right now I am writing a memo proposing that the Task Force stay together. The main thing is to get the organizations together to lobby. We need to set aside a number of people to closely monitor Congress...We must be prepared to make a united front.

Q: How do you think Congress will relate to the recommendations of the report?

A: Well we have some Friends on the Hill. (Rep.) John Dingill, for example, invited us to use the Caucus Room of the House's Cannon Building. Percy, Ottinger and others are favorable. Also the Rockefeller Brothers Fund is buying 5,000 copies of the Task Force book and will be sending it to every member of Congress, plus distributing widely to government, business and labor.

Q: What about the Administration. How will they respond?

A: If you heard Stu Eizenstadt's speech, you would know where the Administration stands. His speech was damn good....

Q: I understand that President Carter will announce a national energy policy in April. Will it contain any of the report's recommendations? I'm particularly interested in this idea of an energy tax and, of course, nuclear energy.

A: We're working on this. Carter is quite receptive on the energy tax and also on conservation in general. Recently, he's been a little equivocal on nuclear energy. If he goes along with the breeder reactor program, he'll certainly get a lot of flak from us. I know Laurance Rockefeller has particular concern around the nuclear question....we're going to put a lot of pressure on him....We think he'll respond.

Q: Many of the recommendations — like eliminating personal tax exemptions, high energy prices, etc., won't be very popular with the public. How do you expect to rally support?

A: We are raising unpopular issues — unpopular but necessary....These are tough things we have to do. It's the children from 0-10 that we are really talking about. Some of them may not make it.